

GEORGIA FIRM GIVES ADVICE AS BEST WAY TO FIGHT WEEVIL

Now that the boll weevil is in South Carolina in large numbers, is rapidly advancing and will soon ravage the entire cotton area of the State, the following liberal extracts from a letter written just one year ago by the A. P. Brantley Co., Blackshear, Ga., to their customers and friends should be of interest to South Carolina bankers, business men and farmers.

The letter is rather lengthy, but it is well worth reading, as it is applicable to conditions existing today in many South Carolina communities: Blackshear, Ga., Nov. 5, 1918.

The time is now here when those who make their living out of the soil must give serious consideration to the question of what crop to depend upon for a money crop. The boll weevil makes it questionable if it is safe to rely upon cotton as heretofore. While we do not advocate the entire abandonment of cotton for the present at least, at the same time it does not now appear to be the part of wisdom to risk all upon that crop. Until we know more about the boll weevil and how best to control his ravage, it is the part of simple wisdom to devote only a comparatively small acreage to cotton. Meanwhile, what will the farmer do? He cannot afford to stand still. He must go forward or cease to exist, and planting time will soon be here. Plainly, therefore, a decision must be reached, and effective plans accordingly laid. The desire to aid you in this critical situation is the simple purpose of this circular.

Tobacco looks good, and after pretty thorough investigation, we believe there is the possibility of a splendid profit from its cultivation. Farmers around Nichols and Douglas have made a great deal of money out of tobacco this year. Our information is that profits have ranged from \$200 to \$400, and even more, per acre. Tobacco does not require the long growing season that cotton does. The crop is made and the money is in your pockets by the time cotton is ordinarily ready to be picked. Therefore, tobacco would not interfere with cotton if you wish to devote an acreage to both. Further, it is believed, by these competent to judge, that the tobacco market will be high this year. With average success, therefore one crop should pay all expenses and leave a comfortable profit besides. It must be understood in growing tobacco the first year that expert advice is vital to success. It is very probable that a competent and reliable expert tobacco grower can be secured for a compensation of ten per cent of the value of the crop actually grown. For this compensation the expert would supervise everything from the preparation of the seed to the harvesting and curing of the crop. Such an arrangement offers the decided advantage of being reasonably safe, and, besides, there is no other way to make a successful beginning. Another important thing is that tobacco should be grown in communities. By this we mean that the farmers of a given community, where the farms are reasonably convenient to each other, should all plant tobacco. The reason for this is that this plant makes it possible to secure the necessary expert advice and supervision at the least possible expense, and in addition makes possible the interchange of necessary labor at the harvest season. This last is a very important consideration. The curing of tobacco is a matter of prime importance, and for this purpose a properly constructed curing house is necessary. Curing houses are not necessarily expensive. For instance, a curing house sixteen feet square, which would be ample large to care for five acres of tobacco, can be built at a cost of \$150 to \$200. A house eighteen feet square, which would be large enough to care for seven acres of tobacco, would cost proportionately more. If you decide to try tobacco as a money crop it is essential that you should interest your neighbors in the project, and that arrangements can be made to secure the necessary expert advice. If the tobacco looks good, you cannot too strongly recommend that you arrange to visit the Nichols and Douglas sections and find out for yourself more about the trouble and the profit of tobacco growing. You can make the trip by automobile in a day, and if it is made it may easily prove to be the

most profitable trip you ever made.

If you have any thought of going in for tobacco as a money crop we very strongly urge prompt action, so there may be plenty of time to make all necessary arrangements before time to plant. We wish to add that if as many as two thousand acres are planted to tobacco in the territory tributary to Blackshear next spring we will undertake to see that a suitable modern tobacco warehouse is built here in good time to care for and market the crop.

Sweet potatoes, when of the proper quality and carefully graded and cured is a crop that will always command the ready cash. To get the most out of sweet potatoes careful attention must be given to varieties, grading and curing. The old fashioned banking method must be supplemented by a modern potato curing house, because potatoes cannot be successfully cured except in a properly constructed and operated curing house. These houses can be built of any desired capacity and the cost depends upon the size. The great advantage in curing potatoes is found in the fact that cured potatoes can be kept as long as desired and thus put upon the market when the demand is greatest and the price is best. By the old banking method fully one half the crop is perhaps annually lost from rot. A potato curing house would save that annual waste and put just that much additional cash in the farmer's pocket. A potato curing house should be built upon the co-operative plan, and we believe it is quite possible that the profits of the first year's operations would more than pay back the whole investment.

Peanuts is another crop that is rapidly coming to the front as a money crop in southern Georgia, and elsewhere, and there is no doubt that they would prove profitable here. In addition to being an excellent stock food the peanut and its products are being more and more extensively used for human food, and desirable food products must always command a sale on the market. Besides this there is a decided advantage in growing a good acreage of peanuts because you can always fatten your hogs on them if the price offered is unsatisfactory. If a sufficient acreage to justify it is planted to peanuts in this immediate section the local cotton seed oil mill will afford a market for them. This in turn would mean that you would have an ample supply of peanut meal available to your hand for stock feeding, and there is no better feed for this purpose.

Sugar cane is an old crop that can be converted into a profitable money crop with careful attention. This means, of course, that the cane must be made into first class, heavy bod-

ied syrup. Because we have not in the past given sufficient attention either to the marketing or the grading of our syrup. Large manipulating plants have come into existence, where our syrup is taken and proceeded, that is, made of uniform body, flavor and color and then put upon the market in fancy containers at a handsome profit to the manipulators.

There is no reason why the farmers of a community may not get together in the matter of syrup production, and thus reap this profit for themselves. The proposition can be handled upon a cooperative plan and the investment need not be heavy. The main thing is to produce the quality and character of syrup the market demands. If this is done there is no reason why it might not prove very profitable.

Corn can be made a profitable cash crop if the proper attention is given to it. The corn weevil and the rat probably cause a greater annual waste than the boll weevil despite the fact that it is entirely possible to free the premises of both these pests. The proper use of Carbon Disulphide in correctly constructed barns will free the corn of both the weevil and the rat. Because it can be done it ought to be done if for no other reason than to reduce the number of acres actually needed to be planted to corn to meet all the farm needs. Weevil infested corn is unmarketable and besides it is unfit for human consumption. Being rid of the weevil and the rat and with proper attention to quality a ready market can be found for car load quantities of corn, either shelled and sacked or in the shock. Velvet beans are not only a splendid soil improver but a ready cash bringer as well. Large acreage could

CITATION NOTICE.

State of South Carolina, County of Lexington.—By George S. Drafts, Esquire, Probate Judge.

Whereas, M. Jesse Hendrix made suit to me, to grant her Letters of Administration of the Estate of and effects of Saremha H. Hendrix.

These are therefore to cite and admonish all and singular the kindred and Creditors of the said Saremha H. Hendrix, deceased, that they be and appear, before me, in the Court of Probate, to be held at Lexington, C. H., S. C., on 5 Dec. 1919 next, after publication hereof at 11 o'clock in the forenoon, to show cause, if any they have, why the said Administration should not be granted.

Given under my Hand, this 20 day of Nov. Anno Domini 1919.

Geo. S. Drafts, (L. S.)
Probate Judge Lexington Co., S. C.
Published on the 26 day of Nov. 1919 in the Lexington paper 2 weeks.

be profitably planted. Velvet bean meal is on the market and is much sought and highly regarded as a feed for cattle and stock. If an acreage sufficiently large to warrant the investment is planted to velvet beans in the section accessible to Blackshear a feed mill will be established here. This would afford a local cash market for all the beans we could produce.

Hogs have always been a main source of wealth in many sections, and there is every reason to believe that intelligent attention to breed and care will make them vastly profitable to the farmers of Pierce County. The packing plant is coming nearer to us all the time, and if a sufficient hog supply were available their buyers would come to our local markets for them. The farmers of Brooks county are finding in their hogs a source of wealth. They sell every year thousands of pounds of cured bacon and hams at a good profit. When the packing plant does not offer the price they think they should have they kill and cure. Every farmer has his own curing house in which he uses ice for refrigeration. He does not wait for suitable weather but kills when

the hogs are fat and ready. By their methods there is practically no loss from spoil meat. The Brooks county plan is worth investigating. Brooks county is not far away and any farmer there will gladly show you how it is done.

Beef cattle can easily be made and therefore ought to become a great source of wealth to the farmers of Pierce county. Nature has given us a wonderful climate and splendid range country that ought to be taken advantage of. The compulsory tick eradication law will give us a tick-free county by the end of 1919, which means it will be possible to introduce the better strains of beef cattle into the county without fear of loss. Every attention should now be given to securing the foundation of a herd, and just as rapidly as possible the inferior strains we now have should be disposed of. It is just as easy, and costs no more, to raise a 12,000 lb. steer as a 600 lb. one. There is a whole lot of difference in the profits. Other sections have grown rich on cattle alone, while we have long neglected to utilize the blessings nature has so abundantly lavished upon us. Right now is the time to begin plan-

ning to bring in the improved breeds. Intelligent attention to cattle will bring certain and increasing profits.

Keep it in mind that in all sections of the country where diversification is the rule prosperity is much greater than in those sections where the all-cotton, or one-crop, rule prevails.

Adopt your program for beating the boll weevil and go to work. You can bet your life "Billy Boll Weevil" is going to give you a stiff fight, but you can whip him if you try.

G. A. CARDWELL,
Agricultural and Industrial Agent,
Atlantic Coast Line Railroad, Wilmington, N. C.

FREE PLANS FOR GRANARIES.

"Knock-down" or portable granaries can be used to care for wheat on the farm, plans for which have been published by the United States Department of Agriculture. The use of these storehouses often enables the grower to market his produce with better profit. The plans can be obtained free on request.

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